The opening chapter describing the father and mother and five daughters of a respectable family in Mr. Maurice Hewlett's story of "Open Country" (Charles Scribner's Sons) is keen and nusing and altogether delightful. We ust have a great liking for Vicky, or Setoria Percival, who at 22 made astonishing epigrams about her mother and about other people who invited strongly her ingenious comment, but of course it was Sanchia, the youngest daughter, the beauty of the family, who was 20 and very serious, who overwhelmed us-

In the second chapter we have a recurrence of Senhouse, the gentleman gypsy of one of the author's earlier stories. He made us a little doubtful because, it will be remembered, he knew all the poets, and had radical theories and lived an extravagantly simple life, notwithstanding that his father owned a coal mine. A reformer who wears sandals and prefers dry sand to soap, and quivers with appreciative despair when he recalls (as Senhouse frequently does) Shelley's phrase, put in the mouth of Panthea, "the space within my plumes," is qualified to excite

But Senhouse here is blessed with very effective humor, and he shows us from the start that he can be immensely interesting. It is a little difficult to believe that Sanchia, who was London bred, could have been quite unconsc innocent when she went wading in the lily pool. Still we feel it ungracious to doubt the strong intimations of the story. At 20 she was serious and sincere. She was also a reasonably completed and a

beautiful figure.

The story cribes frankly the scene at the lily pool. We read: "Preparations began. Senhouse rolled up his flannel. trousers as high as they would go and pushed up the sleeves of his sweater. The young lady produced pins from somethere about her person and holding them in her mouth proceeded to bind her rai-ment about her middle and to secure it there. Without a tremor or visible flicker of self-consciousness she revealed to this chance acquaintance as fine a pair of legs as anybody could have to show. Not Artemis, high girt for the chase, could have bared finer or dared more. The artist in our friend admired and the man was stirred. He dated his subjection from that moment."

The letters of Senhouse to Sanchia overflowed with his own lyrical, scholarly, reformatory and extremely interesting intelligence. He called her a reincarnation of Artemis the Chaste and Fair. He set her to inquiring as to the meaning of anarchy and the rights of property. Of course the subject of religion came to engage her eager mind. The story says: "A young Sanchia of 20 years, her hair newly put up and the seriousness upon her of the hush before sunrise-what was she to do, confronted by these questions? What could she do but inquire of her friend his view of God?" It is added that she did it with a very sober pen and with lips pale and com-

His answer is full of interest. He touched upon his own habit of pouring a moderate libation to Pan and the symphs as often as he had beer. He said that he seldom went to church because he felt more aware of high God out of doors. The god for him was old Terminus, who insisted upon being worshipped in the open air, with the conseence that when they enclosed him in ne temple of Capitoline Jove they had to leave a hole in the roof for his express benefit. Wasn't it Oliver Wendell Holmes who did not approve of growing oaks in flower pots' | "Wise old man," commented making proverbs like Polo-St. in a cathedral this vagabond managed to get a thrill. "Out of the gray stillness," he wrote to Sanchia, "a boy's young voice goes spearing and surplice and believe for a few blessed

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moments that he is quiring with the

He mentioned Antipater of Sidon in

his letter, and we have no idea what

Sanchia made of that. She had a clearer

motion, doubtless, when he came to the matter of catching the English in moments when they were truly religious. "As for our blessed fellow countrymen,"

he wrote, "if you want to see them truly

religious, and meaning it from the bottom

of their hearts, go and see them at church on the veranda of a Swiss hotel-in their

black coats and pressed trousers-all the

women in gloves, and the curate, who

was in knickerbockers on Saturday and

will be in them on Monday, saying 'Dearly

beloved brethren' in a throaty voice

which, thank the Lord, he will lose all the

rest of the week." It is all very sprightly,

very exuberant, giving a sense of levita-

As for Sanchia, though her head was

full of Senhouse, it was Nevile Ingram

of Wanless Park, Felsboro', a much baser

man than the vagabond lyrist, who

touched her heart. We found Mr. William

Chevenix's description of his friend In-

gram very beautiful. Said this interest-

ing gentleman to Mrs. Percival: "I don't

say you'll like him and I don't say you

won't. No Shakespeare and musical

glasses about Nevile, you know. Rich

chap, well bred and all that. Oh, they're

good people, those Ingrams, you know.

No connection with that lot in Duchess's

happen to know. The Wanless party's

different set altogether. And a lively

ustomer at a dance! He can shake a

leg, as they say. Ah, and you ought to see him on a horse, Mrs. Percival. That's

where Nevile's at home. He's got a seat.

Plays for the Go-Betweens at Hurlingham.

He's at it to-day, I believe; he's mostly

at it. Oh, he's not under a bushel, you

know, old Nevile. No, no. He's well

alight. What is it? Burning upwards

to his point of bliss, eh? I forget these

things so. But there he is, don't you know." He had a wife in Sicily, a bad

lot, who had abandoned him some years

before. This was awkward when Sanchia fell in love with him. But Sanchia was

single minded and determined. The

We found the story exceedingly inter-

esting. It is beautifully and brilliantly

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yet through you low, descending orb."

punishment was visited upon the man re-

The darkness was slightly relieved by

Her quiet mood changed to one of con-

suming rage. She told him to pray, and

and prove itself."

rouble came of that.

Gate, mind you. Soap boilers they were

tion, even of dizziness at times.

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A particularly interesting part of Retsel Terreve's story of "A Man Without Prin-ciple?" (the Hocking Publishing Company, death immediately. She remembered and the usurious money lender. that she had a message to leave. The Norfolk, Va.) is where the giant High author does not spare us at this point. Church minister asks Marie to marry him. "Notice," he says, "with what effort, with The minister says: "See, dear heart! what incredible torture she manages to The eventide draws near, and soon men's raise herself, her marble countenance passions, sorrows, struggles will vanish facing the spot covered by the moonbeam. in forgetfulness. Look, Marie! Look, Her left hand supports her. Her rightmy princess! The setting sun is waiting. watch it. It withdraws the knife. Now tarrying for the joyous message from her finger is rubbed here and there upon your lips, for the signal of triumphant her breast. Now she raises it-see! it is But Marie felt herself unable to make dripping with her blood. She begins to

the message joyous. So far from making it that she said: "Perhaps the setting sun write in crimson letters on the wall." We may be thankful that these distress does sometimes bring quietude, but darkness follows too and brings its many ing scenes are offset by a humor that is as remarkable as they are. The three chief characters, the reclaimed convict, horrors to uneasy, hopeless minds. The sun you speak of grins sardonically at the giant minister and the benevolent what it leaves behind instead of acting gambler, are all witty. Seldom in the as a scavenger for you or I or those who dread the night. I do suffer. Why dialogue of a tale do we find such a quantity and such a quality of repartee should I deny it? But my relief, dear From a publisher's notice we learn that a number of people to whom the book has Melville, is not to come through you nor been sent have been profoundly impressed Marie suffered from having had a by it and have even suspected that it is 'past." In the eleventh chapter of the "the" American novel. third part of the story it may be read how

# Very Good Indeed.

punishment was visited upon the line and a sponsible for her sorrow. In a church at midnight we find him manacled and toss-midnight we find him manacled and toss-midnight with a national solution and full of interest. It mirably written and full of interest. It tells how young Vickers, who was off in a South American country because the rays of pale moonlight. His shattered nerves and parched throat craved United States did not seem 2 safe place Journals of George Ticknor (Houghton brandy and soda. The organ began to for him, assumed the personality of an-Miffin Company) we are told of Ticknor's play. This was too much. With a curse other exile named Lee, who had died of he lifted the heavy iron ball attached to drink; how he came to New York and eshis fetters and staggered toward the tablished himself in the exclusive Lee sound. "Bang! Crash!" This was the iron family; how he lived down an evil repuball falling from his nerveless hands, tation that the dead Lee had left behind Marie turned from the organ and adhim, and how a girl who thought that she dressed him in a passionless voice. "Your had reason to hate him at first came to wife, Lawrence, they say is dead. You love him at last, notwithstanding that she

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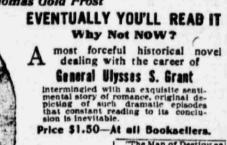
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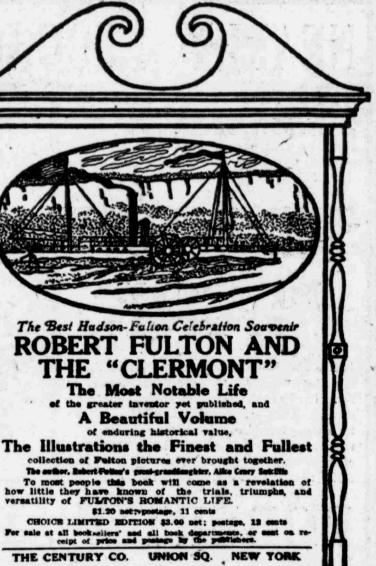


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